

Adaptation & Resiliency Working Group Meeting

Wednesday, November 30 · 2:00 – 4:00pm

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/bjw-sgmh-bhp>

Or dial: (US) +1 240-816-0298 PIN: 574 341 866#

More phone numbers: <https://meet.google.com/tel/bjw-sgmh-bhp?pin=8803689242977&hs=1pin=8803689242977#>

ACTION ITEMS:

Sarah Lane: Send out May 11th meeting minutes with February meeting materials via email as drive access was blocked

All: If you have not already done so, please [use this document](#) to sign up to participate on one of the ARWGs workgroups assigned within its workplan:

- Capacity Building
- Decision Support Toolkit
- Next Generation Adaptation Plan
- Salt Water Intrusion Plan

Allison Breitenother offered to set up the kick off for the capacity building workgroup

Brandy Espinola offered to convene the decision support tool workgroup

All: Fill out this [google form](#) by December 14, 2022 to provide your input on a Next Generation Adaptation Plan.

All: The 2023 dates for ARWG will be from 2-4pm on:

February 22, 2023

May 31, 2023

August 30, 2023

November 29, 2023

Chair: Secretary of Natural Resources, Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio

Coordinator: Sarah Lane, sarah.lane@maryland.gov

Agenda

I. Welcome and Introductions

2:00 - 2:05p

A. Meeting Call to Order - Approve Minutes from September 7, 2022 Meeting and set expectations -
Secretary, Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio (DNR)

1. Action: Members approve meeting minutes, Solicit participation for Next Generation Adaptation Plan
2. Materials: [September 7, 2022 draft meeting minutes](#); [May 11, 2022 draft meeting minutes](#)

Matt Fleming, Acting Asst Secretary, MD DNR, is filling in for Sec. Haddaway-Riccio, called meeting to order

Christine Conn, MD DNR, took roll call

Meeting minute approval:

September 7th meeting minutes approved by membership

Action (Sarah Lane): Send out May 11th meeting minutes via email as drive access was blocked

Announcements :

The Biden/Harris administration issued a [Roadmap](#) on nature-based solutions “to fight climate change, strengthen communities and support local economies.”

MDE released MCCC 2022 [annual report](#)

II. ARWG 2023 Work Plan

2:05 - 2:35p

Christine Conn, Acting Unit Director, Chesapeake and Coastal Service, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

- A. Maryland Climate Change Commission 2022 Annual Report - Present the ARWG recommendation for Maryland’s Next Generation Adaptation Plan
 1. Action: Review of Annual Report
 2. Materials: [MCCC 2002 Annual Report](#)
- B. ARWG 2023 work plan and identify implementation roles
 1. Action: Discuss dissemination timeline; assign roles and responsibilities for implementation
 2. Materials: [ARWG Work Plan](#)
- C. Additional Updates for Ongoing Initiatives - ARWG Workgroup

Notes:

Suzanne Dorsey, MDE, highlighted the MCCC annual report which includes 34 recommendations. She emphasized that mitigation and resilience opportunities and strategies need to come together and her pitch to the ARWG is to emphasize nature based solutions, equity and built stormwater conveyance.

ACTION (members): If you have not already done so, please [use this document](#) to sign up to participate on one of the ARWGs workgroups assigned within its workplan:

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Saltwater Intrusion Workgroup

This group has a committed state agency team but if anyone else is interested in participating please contact Jason Dubow -MDP-. The group will continue to meet in 2023. 4 main next steps to move priorities forward. Piggyback on the other ARWG workplan priorities. State law requires it to be updated by end of 2024.

Next Generation Adaptation Plan

This workplan item was discussed at the end of the meeting. Please see meeting minutes below for more details.
ACTION (members and interested parties): Fill out this [google form](#) to provide your input on a Next Generation Adaptation Plan

During the meeting the following people signed up for:

Capacity Building

MDP - Jason Dubow
UMD /EFC - Brandy Espinola
MDOT - Allison Breitenother/Sandy Hertz
DNR - Catherine McCall
NWF - Amanda Poskaitis
Sea Grant - Fredrika Moser
MDEM - Vanessa Calaban
MDE - Jim George and Rachel Lamb
NOAA - Julie Reichert-Nguyen
TNC - Jackie Specht

Action: Allison Breitenother offered to set up the kick off for the capacity building workgroup

Decision Support Tool

MDP - Jason Dubow, Debbie Herr Cornwell
MDOT - Allison Breitenother/Sandy Hertz
MDH - Cliff will find someone to participate
MDE - Rachel Lamb
DNR - Sasha Land, Dylan Taillie
MD Sea Grant Extension - Kate McClure
UMD/EFC - Brandy Espinola
MDEM - Vanessa Calaban

Action: Brandy Espinola offered to convene the decision support tool workgroup

Decision Support Toolkit Discussion

Tap into CBP- climate resiliency workgroup - has a funded project going on right now where they are summarizing and synthesizing data layers from existing resilience tools for targeting marsh restoration.

Is this helpful as an online tool? (Cliff introduced with multiple members in agreement). ARWG to tackle the development of an online portal, coupled with technical assistance. that provides guidance and a framework for using the tools. Develop a playbook that walks through a living example. Also, need staff who can walk through it with zoning boards (not experts in all details but can sell the use of the tool).

SuzanneDorsey - The Blue/Green Infrastructure Committee is building a tracking tool to showcase restoration projects for financing opportunities and tracking GHG reduction and other environmental outcomes. Intended to have existing restoration and planned restoration projects. Risk based overlays; DEIJ overlays. Tool to show you what is already there.

The RASCL group in Delaware is a nice example of providing technical assistance as well
<https://www.derascl.org/>

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary has a great example of how they utilized multiple tools to inform regional decisions with some real world examples:

https://resilience-workshop.tetrattech.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Day-2_Josh-Moody-EPA-Wetland-Vul-Se minar.pdf

Could provide some insights on developing a play book of sorts that Cliff suggested

III. Topics for 2023 Agenda

2:35 - 2:50p

- A. Incorporating Insurance into Adaptation - *Alex Borkowski, Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA)*
- B. Additional suggestions for topics - ARWG Workgroup

The 2023 dates for ARWG will be from 2-4pm on:

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Alex Borkowski offered his expertise and agency resources as a partner/opportunity for advancing the ARWG priorities. Proposing an “Insurance” focused meeting for ARWG to promote adaptation and mitigate losses during the May 31, 2023 meeting.

Additional agenda items to tee up for 2023:

Supply chain shortages (seedlings for tree planting, steel for oyster cages); well trained contractors to conduct good project management = long term investment as we scale up.

MyCoast - Kate Vogel and Sasha Land, DNR

IV. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) - Maryland Capacity Collaborations

2:50-3:05p

New BIL funding opportunities are reinvigorating conversations about enhancing Maryland-based capacity collaborations to advance natural and nature-based features (NNBF) in frontline communities. Discussions about identifying future collaboration opportunities kicked off in a mini-workshop on November 29.

Participants and partners from the workshop will share brief perspectives from the conversation and needs for future capacity networks to support underserved communities.

- A. Highlights and Perspectives -
 - a. Amanda Poskaitis, National Wildlife Federation
 - b. Kacey Wetzel/Emily Stransky, Chesapeake Bay Trust
- B. Discussion - ARWG
 - a. How can this network be expanded to address ARWG 2023 work plan goals
 - b. How ARWG members can support and incorporate this in the NextGen Adaptation Plan

Amanda Poskaitis introduced the workshop audience and recognized frontline community members and indigenous voices were not in attendance. Those in the room identified their roles and responsibilities; funding gaps;

opportunities within IJJA and who can access that funding; identified who is not in the room. Identify needs: coordination on know who is applying for what and where.

HIGHLIGHT: Let Amanda know if you are interested in participating in future discussions with the Coastal States to coordinate and connect around capacity for frontline communities.

Emily Stransky, CBT. Last year Trust and DNR partnered on CBO-CBI (EPA funding) with the goal to create more resilient MD communities, increase the number of applications from frontline communities to our restoration and resilience grant programs. Pilot initiative strived for intentional inclusion. The pilot year brought on contractors called connector groups who have established relationships with frontline communities and tasked with doing outreach to local orgs and pass them to technical assistance providers who conducted site assessments, identify projects, wrote and submitted grants. Now MDE and DNR-NOAA funds are coming on board to continue with this work. The RFPs for these contractual services under CBO-CBI are currently open.

HIGHLIGHT: please feel free to share with your networks if you know organizations who may be able to provide Connector Group services (organizations with meaningful connections to frontline community (ex: in our pilot year that was Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake and Centro de Apoyo Familiar) who would provide outreach services for grant funding opportunities) or Technical Assistance Services (project identification... via an engineering lens and grant writing (ex: Gaiacene Services LLC with Straughan Environmental and CityScope Engineering were the pilot TA providers)

<https://cbtrust.org/grants/bidder-opportunities/>

V. Introduction to Green and Blue Infrastructure Commission

3:05-3:25p

- A. The Green and Blue Infrastructure Commission was created by [Senate Bill 348/HB653](#) during the 2022 Maryland Legislative Session. The purpose of the Commission is to advise on ways to facilitate and accelerate the scale and pace of implementation of green and blue infrastructure projects, including projects designed to improve climate resilience,, sequester carbon, and provide other co-benefits. **20 mins** - *Suzanne Dorsey, Deputy Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment; Gabrielle Leach, Maryland Department of the Environment*
 1. Action: Introduction to the Commission and its scope as it relates to the ARWG
 2. Materials: [Green and Blue Infrastructure Policy Advisory Commission presentation](#)

Suzanne provided an overview of the Conservation Finance Act. The Pay for Success Contract within the CFA was introduced as a way to increase restoration implementation.

Gabrielle Leach introduced the Commission within CFA and invited ARWG members to participate. The Commission meets every month. Vision: to build communities that are equitable and use natural systems to provide vibrant, healthy, and safe places to live in a changing climate. MDE charged with staffing both the Commission, as well as the task force on State and Local Government Accounting for Natural Capital.

HIGHLIGHT: ARWG members are invited to participate in the Green and Blue Infrastructure Policy Advisory Committee. Contact Gabrielle Leach at MDE to participate.

Suzanne presented ideas for “Future Coordination with ARWG”

- “The Common App” a centralized tracking/registration system to quantify and verify; calculate co-benefits; includes risk assessment tools

VI. Forward Planning - Next Generation Adaptation Plan

3:25-3:55p

- A. Next Generation Adaptation Plan - Review of Draft UVA facilitated Adaptation Framework development process; present proposed timeline and scope to solicit feedback on proposed process

for developing Next Generation Adaptation Plan. **30 mins** - *Catherine McCall, Amanda Small and Sarah Lane (DNR)*

1. Action: Task members with completing google form regarding proposed process and participation
2. Materials: [process presentation/worksheet document](#); [current draft framework](#); [ARWG Google feedback form](#)

Rachel Lambv- align with 2031 climate plan ; draft due July 1, 2023 and full done end of calendar year 2023 - natural and working land

Jason Dubow - ARWG has to give rec'ds to MCC for legislation around August/September

Jim George- climate agency report (posted on air admin site) with climate adaptation starting to be reported. Statutory requirement for agencies to report their planning. posted/due end calendar year.

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/air/ClimateChange/Pages/Annual-Climate-Change-Reports.aspx>

Anne Hairston-Strange - Already in GGRA; upcoming federal funding opportunities - align NextGen Plan

VII. Wrap Up - 5 min - *Christine Conn (DNR)*

3:55-4:00p

Public Comment Period

Jeff Silva

Please write your support for a procurement proposal called FAR Case 2021-015 before 1/13/2023. It will require many Federal contractors to disclose their primary and ancillary GHG and climate-related financial risks. Also, they will have to set real science-based targets to reduce their GHG poisons & stop greenwashing. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov/document/FAR-2021-0015-0001> for details. There, click on the blue colored Comment button to use capitalism to fix our failing climate. Thank you

Emily Stransky

A quick plug for the Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps, which is a year-long, stipend paid position for young adults (18-25) who are stationed at a Host site (non-profit org or government agency). They work on an environmentally focused workplan for the year to assist the Host site with their goals, participate in professional development trainings, and complete a capstone project (among other opportunities). Thanks to the Climate Solutions Now Act, we are expanding the Corps class from 30-35 members to 55 for the next year and are specifically looking for additional host sites that would have climate-related work for the Corps member to focus on. If your organization is interested in hosting a young adult for a year of service (August 2023-2024), please check out the Corps Host application which closes next Thursday the 8th or share with your partners if you know of another organization that would be a good fit! RFP located here: https://cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/Host-Org-Application-2023_Final.pdf

Alex Borkowski

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) has a Climate Risk Disclosure Survey that is administered by the states in conjunction with the California Department of Insurance. The Disclosure Survey is a voluntary risk management tool for state insurance regulators to request from insurers on an annual basis a non-confidential disclosure of insurers' assessment and management of climate-related risks. Over the course of the last two years, the NAIC's Climate Risk Disclosure Working Group updated and adopted a new Climate Risk Disclosure Survey that aligns with the framework from the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD). The TCFD framework is structured around four thematic areas that are core elements for how insurers operate—governance, strategy, risk management, and metrics and targets.

The Climate Risk Disclosure Survey captures nearly 80% of the insurance sector based on direct written premium and it intends to:

- Enhance transparency about how insurers manage climate-related risks and opportunities.
 - Identify good practices and vulnerabilities.
 - Provide a baseline supervisory tool to assess how climate-related risks may affect the insurance industry.
 - Promote insurer strategic management and encourage shared learning for continual improvement.
 - Enable better-informed collaboration and engagement on climate-related issues among regulators and interested parties.
 - Align with international climate risk disclosure frameworks to reduce redundancy in reporting requirements.

Maryland is one of the states that adopted the new TCFD-aligned Climate Risk Disclosure Survey. I mentioned this during the meeting because November 30 was the submission deadline for insurers (with direct written premium amounts over \$100M nationwide licensed to write in any of the participating states/territories) to submit their annual disclosures. The MIA has received and is in the process of reviewing the survey responses for Maryland domestics and we anticipate completing our analysis in the coming weeks.

Attendance

Members:

Erik Meyers, The Conservation Fund
Fredrika Moser, MD Sea Grant
Brandy Espinola, UMD/EFC
Matt Rowe, MDE
Vanessa Calaban, MEMA, proxy for Sara Bender
Matt Fleming, Chair, DNR, proxy for Sec Haddaway-Riccio
Anne Hairston-Strang, DNR
Tom Parham, DNR
Clifford Mitchell, MD Department of Health
Jason Dubow, MDP
Alisha Mulkey, MDA
Allison Breitenother, MDOT proxy for Sandy Hertz
Catherine McCall, DNR
John Papavasiliou, Dept Commerce

Non members:

Dave Guignet, MDE
Sarah Lane, DNR
Ryan Mitchell
Suzanne Dorsey, MDE
Kevin Antoszewski, MDA
Gabrielle Leach, MDE
Elliott Campbell, MD DNR
Debbie Herr Cornwell, MDP
Emily Stransky, Chesapeake Bay Trust
Mike Sheffer, MDOT SHA
Jenn Raulin, MD DNR
Kim Pezza, MDE Climate change program
Kevin Smith, MD Coastal Bays Program

Sasha Land, DNR
Amanda Small, MD DNR
Christine Burns, MD DNR
Kate McClure, Maryland Sea Grant Extension
Julie Reichert-Nguyen, NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office, Chesapeake Bay Program Climate Resiliency Workgroup Coordinator
Amanda Poskaitis, National Wildlife Federation
Rachel Lamb, MDE
Spyros Papadimas, DGS
Tim La Valle, MD Commerce
John Kuriawa, NOAA Office for Coastal Management
Alex Borkowski, MD Insurance Administration
Dylan M Tallie, DNR
Jim George, MDE
Karen Metchis
Kate Vogel, DNR
Kevin Antoszewski
Kim Pezza
Landon Fahrig
Michael Sheffer, MDOT SHA
Nell Ziehl, MDP
Nicole Carlozo, DNR
Rebecca Rehr
William Halnon
Tim La Valle - MD Commerce

Chat Discussion:

Allison Breitenother2:29 PM
MDOT will also support this effort, we have some activities that could inform the development of the toolkit. Would be me or Sandy.
Rachel Lamb -MDE-2:30 PM
I can support connections to some of the tracking tools we are developing at MDE
Kate McClure2:30 PM
Happy to participate
Sasha Land -DNR-2:30 PM
Thanks Fredricka, I was typing my name in the chat as you spoke
Vanessa Calaban -MDEM-2:30 PM
since it looks like MDEM has already been tagged in the text, you can put me as the POC for this item
Jason Dubow -MDP-2:30 PM
Similarly, having a federal liaison for the decision-support toolkit would be helpful too.
Dylan M. Taillie -DNR-2:30 PM
i'm also interested, Sarah
Julie Reichert-Nguyen - NOAA Federal2:30 PM
The CBP Climate Resiliency Workgroup has a funded project going on right now where they are summarizing and synthesizing data layers from existing resilience tools for targeting marsh restoration.
May be of interest
Brandy Alexis Espinola2:31 PM
EFC can convene the first call if appropriate
@Cliff - Agree, local governments have a hard time sifting through all of the resources.
John Kuriawa - NOAA Federal2:33 PM
Ditto what Cliff said!

Vanessa Calaban -MDEM-2:33 PM

We've been having this conversation at MDEM as we work on establishing the OOR

Jim George -MDE-2:33 PM

I agree with Cliff in the toolkit issue.

Jason Dubow -MDP-2:33 PM

Yes, this gets to the significant need for circuit riders and regional planners that can assist local governments with capacity building and grant applications.

Julie Reichert-Nguyen - NOAA Federal2:33 PM

Cliff makes a good point. The climate resiliency workgroup is going in a direction to develop guidance and frameworks on how to use these tools since there are so many out there.

John Kuriawa - NOAA Federal2:35 PM

@ Jason, I hope the coastal program can continue to support such positions as they've done for many, many years. (Kind of the reason I didn't weigh in earlier)

Jason Dubow -MDP-2:36 PM

@ John - yes, much appreciated.

Amanda Poskaitis2:37 PM

The RASCL group in Delaware is a nice example of providing technical assistance as well

<https://www.derascl.org/>

John Kuriawa - NOAA Federal2:39 PM

Agreed Amanda, the RASCL model is an interesting one for sure. Likely a bit more difficult to develop and coordinate for a much larger state like Maryland.

Julie Reichert-Nguyen - NOAA Federal2:40 PM

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary has a great example of how they utilized multiple tools to inform regional decisions with some real world examples:

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Could provide some insights on developing a play book of sorts that Cliff suggested

You2:53 PM

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All 2-4

Brandy Alexis Espinola3:01 PM

Amanda - please add me to the list.

Julie Reichert-Nguyen - NOAA Federal3:01 PM

I'm interested in those meetings and workshops - please add me to your list

Jim George -MDE-3:01 PM

Please add me to your list Amanda

Amanda Poskaitis3:01 PM

Great! Also, my internet connection has been questionable today, sorry to not be on camera

Kate McClure3:01 PM

Please add me, as well

Amanda Poskaitis3:01 PM

Thanks Catherine!

Allison Breitenother3:01 PM

Please add me as well Amanda, abreitenother@mdot.state.md.us

Jason Dubow -MDP-3:07 PM

Seems like a great model for us to emulate in other areas too.

Amanda Poskaitis3:08 PM

Got it, thank you all!

Emily Stransky3:11 PM

The RFPs for contractual services for CBO-CBI is currently open - please feel free to share with your networks if you know organizations who may be able to provide Connector Group services (organizations with meaningful connections to frontline community (ex: in our pilot year that was Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake and Centro de Apoyo Familiar) who would provide outreach services for grant funding opportunities) or Technical Assistance Services (project identification...

via an engineering lens and grant writing (ex: Gaiacene Services LLC with Straughan Environmental and CityScope Engineering were the pilot TA providers)

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<https://cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/RFP-for-Outreach-Services-for-CBTs-DI-Initiative-FY23-1.pdf>

whoops, disregard that second link: here's the correct one:

https://cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/RFP-Outreach-Services-for-CBO-CBI_Final-FY23.pdf

Emily Stransky3:13 PM

https://cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/RFP-Technical-Assistance-for-CBO-CBI_Final-FY23.pdf

Amanda Poskaitis3:13 PM

This is such a great initiative, Emily, thank you!

Jason Dubow -MDP-3:13 PM

Excellent, thank you!

Emily Stransky3:27 PM

it was me :) sorry!

Matthew Fleming -DNR-3:33 PM

nice job all.

Gabrielle Leach -MDE-3:33 PM

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/air/ClimateChange/Pages/Green-and-Blue-Commission.aspx>

Here is our website!

You3:36 PM

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe0LetkVj9Rs4jKiIO_HxD_IHVG6lFgjHqcO3vVu7HHfrXH-g/viewform

You3:47 PM

What aspects of the previous process worked well and you would recommend carrying forward?

What did not work well and you would recommend omitting from the Next Generation process?

Jeff Silva3:52 PM

Jeff Silva has a public comment. Thanks.

Allison Breitenother3:52 PM

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/air/ClimateChange/Pages/Annual-Climate-Change-Reports.aspx>

MDE posts all the agency reports online at the link I just shared.

Jeff Silva3:54 PM

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Comment button to use capitalism to fix our failing climate. Thank you

You3:55 PM

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe0LetkVj9Rs4jKiIO_HxD_IHVG6lFgjHqcO3vVu7HHfrXH-g/viewform

Emily Stransky3:57 PM

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